

AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION

Page 4, line 17 to Page 5, line 4:

Referring to Fig. 3 and 4, a disc carrier assembly in accordance with the present invention comprises a disc carrier 10, a clamping device 20, and a positioning sleeve ~~30~~²⁴. The disc carrier 10 is generally a rotor of a spindle motor and includes an engaging portion 11, a plurality of support blocks 101 on a top side thereof, and a ring magnet 103 mounted to an inner periphery of a skirt portion thereof. The engaging portion 11 is made of metal or alloy and may be provided in a central portion of the disc carrier 10 by means ~~of~~^{pf} punching or integral formation. The engaging portion 11 includes an axial tube 111 extending along a longitudinal axis and having an axial hole 112. A shaft 30 is extended through the axial hole 112.

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The positioning sleeve 24 is made of metal and mounted between the axial tube 111 and an inner periphery delimiting the central hole 21 of the clamping device 20. The positioning sleeve 24 includes a through-hole ~~242~~²⁴¹ and a flange 242 that is engaged in the stepped portion 211 of the central hole 21 of the clamping device 20.

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As illustrated in Fig. 4, an inner periphery delimiting the through-hole ~~242~~²⁴¹ of the positioning sleeve 24 is tightly engaged with an outer periphery of the axial tube 111, and an outer periphery of the positioning sleeve 24 is tightly engaged with an inner periphery delimiting the central hole 21 of the clamping device 20, with the flange ~~241~~²⁴² of the positioning sleeve 24 being engaged in the stepped portion 211 of the central hole 21 of the clamping device 20.

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Still referring to Figs. 3 and 4, after assembly of the disc carrier 10, the clamping device 20, the positioning sleeve ~~30~~²⁴, and the shaft 30, these elements can be assembled with a stator assembly 40, a bearing seat 50, and a base 60 to form a spindle motor for an optical disc drive.

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The bearing seat 50 includes a bearing 51 through which the shaft 30 is rotatably extended. The stator assembly 40 is mounted around the bearing seat 50 and generates alternating magnetic fields when energized. The bearing seat 50 is fixed to the base 60 on which a sensor 61 is mounted for detecting a change in polarity of the ring magnet 103 on the disc carrier 10. A support member 52 is mounted in the bearing seat 50 for supporting a distal end of the shaft 30. Further, a padding member 102 made of soft rubber may be mounted on the disc carrier 10 for supporting the optical disc and for absorbing vibrations of the optical disc.